

I am a financially poor adult student attending my local university. I have centered a huge amount of my attention span on my studies. I am guilty of not knowing about the existence of the Broadcast Protection Discussion Group (BPDG), nor this group's goals. It wasn't until today that I learned about BPDG's efforts to thrust this proposal into law via the FCC to ensure that consumers have as little or no rights to digital content or equipment that would use or manipulate digital content. This law (method) is supposed to protect copyright holders, and their contents from the public. Still, I find it hard to understand how it is that the FCC is now in charge (control) of copyright management law.

I urge you to decline further consideration of this proposal and deny the proposal outright. BPDG wants to control my computer, my rights, and now wishes to gain that complete digital control through this agency. Please do not pander to BPDG's terrible pressures. Please support the citizens who you work for and protect them from these industrial giants and their contempt for personal freedoms.

To allow industrial entities to define what I may and may not do with my computer is at least unethical. Reading though these proposals brought back haunting memories of George Orwell's novel 1984. We must be able to see through this corporate charade.

To allow this proposal to slip into law would have a fall-out effect over everything that is digital: my digital amateur radios, my computers, my television set, my DVD and CD recorders to just name a few.

As government (well sponsored by industry) leaps beyond control by its citizens who originally formed it, I can envision digital controls installed in shortwave receivers and satellite receivers•effectively cutting off rights to free speech beyond the shores and borders of those of us confined by a nation. Who controls what these receivers will hear? It is not the person who uses or owns these devices, it is the RIAA, MPAA and Walt Disney Studios!

I want to use digital data as I see fit to use it. I want to extract and use digitally broadcasted portions of news, advertisements, movies, sporting events, telewars, government hearings, and home video in my own content. I want to read and copy a portion of a digital book to make my point today and tomorrow. I want to continue exploring the parameters of my digital devices freely and without the threat of the law (and now the anti-law) busting down my door. I want to continue tinkering with my sound-cards in my shop as I contemplate my new ideas. I want to keep my digital (and analog) devices as free from proprietary control as I can; however, this proposal would halt my efforts outright.

Please reject BPDG's digital proposals.

Thank you for your time.